

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179550
ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PPDC, US, TZ

SUBJECT: CARTER-NYERERE LETTER

FOLLOWING IS PRESIDENT CARTER'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT NYERERE'S
JUNE 19 LETTER. THE SIGNED ORIGINAL FOLLOWS BY POUCH.

BEGIN QUOTE.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL LETTER
OF JUNE 19. OUR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON PROBLEMS OF COMMON
CONCERN IN AFRICA IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO ME. I UNDER-
STAND THAT AMB. SPAIN HAS GIVEN YOU A COPY OF SECRETARY
VANCE'S SPEECH OF JUNE 19 AND THAT YOU WELCOMED IT. IT IS
REASSURING TO KNOW THAT WHILE WE MAY DISAGREE ON CERTAIN
MATTERS, WE CAN NEVERTHELESS AGREE ON THE NEED TO CONTINUE
TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY.

---RECENT EVENTS IN NAMIBIA ARE PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING.
THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL THAT YOU HAVE PROVIDED THE CONTACT
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PAGE 02 STATE 179550

GROUP AND YOUR WORK WITH YOUR FRONT LINE COLLEAGUES AND WITH
SWAPO HAVE CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO OUR COMMON SEARCH
FOR A SOLUTION THAT WILL BRING PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE TO
NAMIBIA. ALTHOUGH MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, PROSPECTS FOR

A SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM HAVE NEVER BEEN
BETTER. I HOPE TO SEE MUTUAL COOPERATION LIKE THIS

STRENGTHENED IN THE FUTURE. IF THE SOVIET UNION WILL ALSO
LEND ITS SUPPORT FOR A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT, AN EXTREMELY
VALUABLE PRECEDENT COULD BE SET.

----IN YOUR LETTER YOU EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE PROSPECT
OF EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION IN AFRICA. OUR CRITICISM OF
SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA DOES NOT GROW FROM
ANY DESIRE FOR CONFRONTATION. INDEED, IT REFLECTS OUR
STRONG BELIEF THAT AFRICAN PROBLEMS MUST BE RESOLVED BY
AFRICANS, IN AFRICAN TERMS. LIKE YOU, MY WISH IS FOR AN
AFRICA THAT IS STRONG POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY AND
THAT CAN PRESERVE ITS FREEDOM FROM OUTSIDE DOMINATION.

----YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT I RECENTLY SENT AMB. MCHENRY
TO LUANDA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ANGOLAN LEADERS. THEIR
TALKS WERE COMPREHENSIVE AND USEFUL AND IDENTIFIED SOME
ISSUES ON WHICH WE SHARE COMMON CONCERNS. ONE SUCH AREA
INVOLVES THE ANGOLA-ZAIRE BORDER AND STEPS THAT ZAIRE AND
ANGOLA MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE THE
TENSIONS BETWEEN THEM. WE HOPE TO ENCOURAGE RECIPROCAL
MEASURES BY BOTH SIDES WITH A VIEW TO STABILIZING THE
ANGOLA-ZAIRE BORDER AND PROMOTING PEACE IN THE REGION.

-----LET US HOPE THAT THROUGH THESE AND SIMILAR EFFORTS
WE CAN COME ONE STEP CLOSER TO THE GOALS WHICH BOTH YOU
AND I SEEK.
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 179550

-----MY VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE FORTH-
COMING OAU SUMMIT MEETING. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END
QUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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